

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

10/28/2011

This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at http://lam.alaska.gov/about_lam/FridayBulletin.html.

Submissions for the Friday Bulletin should be sent to linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov and may be edited for content and length if used.

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NEWS FROM THE DIVISION

WHO WE ARE: BECKY ORFORD (INTERLIBRARY LOAN)



What I do is ILL – Interlibrary Loan – which means getting stuff from other libraries and sending other libraries some of our stuff.

As far as getting stuff from other libraries, I mostly do this for state employees, some for their personal use, but mostly information they need to do their jobs. Many of those employees are not in Juneau. I also do a modest amount for Juneau residents who use our library as part of the Capital City Libraries consortium.

I would say 95% of the ILL I do is for journal articles. 95% of that is done electronically, on my end, anyway. I can usually receive the patron's request, research the citation, place the request, receive the document, and deliver it to the patron from my desktop. Another part of this job is keeping track of copyright compliance and fees.

As far as the materials we provide to other libraries, those are across the spectrum of our collections. I loan materials from our Circulating and Federal Documents Collections, as well as reels of Alaskan newspaper microfilm. I also loan some microfilm from the Historical Collections. I scan or photocopy materials in our Reference, Periodicals, and Historical Collections. Getting good images is a big part of this task, working with microfilm, fiche, new materials, and old (sometimes irreplaceable) materials.

In and among all of this I do detective work, trying to figure out exactly what and where the information is that we've been asked to provide, either for our patrons or for another library.

MANGO LANGUAGES: LEARN WITHOUT REGISTERING

The Alaska Library Network (ALN) has added a new option to our statewide license to Mango Languages. Now when you visit Mango either via the Digital Pipeline (<http://sled.alaska.edu/databases/>) or directly at <http://libraries.mangolanguages.com/alaska/start>, you should see the new option "Start Learning!" which will allow you to start language classes without having to register. Registration is still available for people who would like to have Mango keep track of their progress.

If you live in Alaska and don't see "Start Learning!" at <http://libraries.mangolanguages.com/alaska/start>, please fill out the ALN help form at <http://alaskalibrarynetwork.org/get-help/>. This will help staff diagnose and fix your problem.

STATE ARCHIVES TO ORGANIZE & OPEN THE EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL LITIGATION CASE

The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill was a major event in world history, but it permanently changed the lives of those of us who live in Alaska – especially people who live in the Spill Region. Lawsuits lasted 5 years and the State Department of Law accumulated a huge case file - millions of pages! Storing and managing the file was a significant cost to the People and State.

On October 1, 2011 the State Archives began to assess litigation records. A National Historical Publications and Records Commission (National Archives) funded project allows archivists to determine what to keep for permanent public knowledge, and what to dispose of. The two year project employs two full time professional archivists. Permanent records will be organized, cataloged and publicized around the world.

Project staff will begin locally and progressively work outward to wider audiences. Work will emphasize access within Alaska before efforts to reach the world at large. The oil spill happened to Alaska and its people were the most significantly impacted. They should be as thoroughly involved as possible.

A seven member Oversight Task Force has been set up to assure Alaskan participation. Members will review and comment on project activities and especially advise project staff on important issues historians don't usually deal with – legalities & restrictions, science & technology, community & regional affairs, and how best to let the public know how things progress. Members include:

- Andrew Goldstein, Valdez Museum & Historical Archives
- Patience Andersen Faulkner, Eyak Tribal Council
- Craig Tillery the State's lead Exxon Valdez Attorney
- Barbara Hendrickson the State's Lead Exxon Valdez Paralegal

- Jennifer Schorr, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Law Environmental Litigation Section
- Carrie Holba, Oil Spill Trustees Council Librarian
- Kurt Fredriksson, Former Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner

Others closely associated with the spill and litigation have agreed to provide adjunct advice and information.

Staff Director Larry Hibpshman and Archivist Sara Bornstein, hope others; particularly those in the Spill Region will become involved. For information or to comment contact:

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NEWS FROM L.A.M.S IN ALASKA

KODIAK HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Thanks to Katie Oliver for this account from the Kodiak Historical Society annual meeting on October 26, 2011:

The members of the Kodiak Historical Society gathered for their annual meeting Wednesday night at Kodiak College. Executive Director Katie Oliver said the organization was very active in the past year, completing the fourth and final year of window restoration on the National Historic Landmark building they occupy. She joked to the crowd that with the newly refurbished windows, occupants of the museum can now simply observe Kodiak's severe fall and winter weather without experiencing it through leaks and drafts. She said continuing to improve environmental conditions for the museum's collections would be a goal in the years ahead as is expanding access to the collections through research, interpretive writing and publishing. Historical Society Board President Nancy Kemp related a story from her childhood, when her grandfather brought an artifact - a mammoth's tooth - back home to Wisconsin from Alaska. It crumbled into pieces within 20 years. She said that illustrated the importance of environmental conditions, proper storage and care of objects.

Board Treasurer Pat Szabo reported the organization's finances are in good shape, with its endowment rebounding from the stock market crash, going from a low of about \$800,000 in 2009 to a current value of \$1.2-million. Three directors left the board; they were Mary Monroe, Lynda Ross and Margie Draskovich, while Dr. Gil Bane won re-election. Newly elected to the board were Barbara Bolson, Skip Bolton and Theresa Miller.

The Society's 2011 annual report has been posted to the web at <http://www.baranovmuseum.org/images/stories/2011.khs.annualreport.pdf>.

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